REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5, 8-11, 14-21, 23, 25, and 27-31 are pending in this application. Claims 1-5, 8-11, 14-21, 23, 25, and 27-31 stand rejected. No claims have been amended, canceled, or added by this paper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 1-5, 8-11, 14-21, 23, 25, and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gulick et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,314,501) in view of Vishin et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,860,146). In particular, the Office Action asserts that Gulick discloses the limitation added by the Response filed on February 10, 2006, namely "wherein the mapping defines a non-monotonic function." Applicant respectfully disagrees that Gulick teaches or suggests this limitation, and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Office Action incorrectly states that FIG. 33 of Gulick "is a block diagram of apparatus for carrying out the address relocation and reclamation methods of the present invention which leads to a non-monotonic mapping function from physical to machine resources." Gulick uses the term "relocation" merely to refer to the process of mapping addresses in one address space to addresses in another address space. The only examples that Gulick provides of such relocation (mapping) involve monotonic mappings. The Office Action

points to no suggestion in Gulick to create a non-monotonic mapping, and Gulick does not in fact make any such suggestion.

More specifically, the Office Action points to FIG. 33 of Gulick, which illustrates an apparatus for performing the "relocation" and "reclamation" functions described elsewhere by Gulick. As indicated at col. 15, line 66 - col. 16, line 4, Gulick uses the terms "relocated" and "mapped" as synonyms. Gulick defines "relocation" as the "assignment of a base address to an exclusive memory window" (col. 16, lines 19-20). As shown in FIG. 4, operating system window 430 is "relocated" to base address zero, since operating system window 430 is mapped to a portion of the main memory 160 (shown on the right side of FIG. 4) beginning at address zero (col. 16, lines 23-26). Similarly, operating system window 410 is "relocated" to base address 2GB, since operating system window 410 is mapped to a portion of the main memory 160 beginning at address 2GB. The example "relocation" (mapping) shown in FIG. 4 is a monotonic mapping.

FIGS. 3 and 5 of Gulick show further examples of the monotonic mappings disclosed by Gulick. More specifically, and as described in more detail in the Response filed by Applicant on February 10, 2006, FIGS. 3 and 5 of Gulick show monotonic mappings between the address spaces labeled "OS#1" and the corresponding addresses in MSU memory spaces 350 and 504, respectively.

Gulick also discloses "reclamation," defined as "the re-mapping of the address space within a window in order to reclaim the memory locations that fall behind a memory-mapped I/O address space" (col. 16, lines 30-32). Gulick does not teach or suggest performing such reclamation to produce non-monotonic mappings between physical addresses and machine addresses. For example, as described at col. 16, lines 30-59 of Gulick, reclamation is used to reclaim the low memory holes 542 and 572. As shown in FIGS. 3 and 5, however, such reclamation does not produce non-monotonic mappings. Rather, as described above, the mappings between physical and machine addresses shown in FIGS. 3 and 5 are purely monotonic.

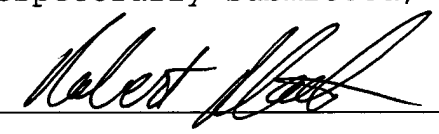
FIG. 33, referenced by the Office Action, does not teach or suggest performing either "relocation" or "reclamation," as Gulick uses those terms, to perform non-monotonic mappings between physical addresses and machine addresses. Rather, FIG. 33 illustrates "apparatus . . . for performing the relocation and reclamation functions described above" (col. 19, lines 24-27). More specifically, FIG. 33 merely illustrates a particular mechanism for implementing the relocation and reclamation functions summarized above, without teaching or suggesting the use of such relocation or reclamation functions to create non-monotonic mappings between physical addresses and machine addresses.

In summary, all of the rejected claims include (either directly or indirectly) the limitation "wherein the mapping defines a non-monotonic function." Neither Gulick, nor Vishin, either individually or in combination, teach or suggest this limitation. The pending claims, therefore, patentably distinguish over the combination of Gulick and Vishin. Applicant therefore traverses the rejection and respectfully requests that it be withdrawn.

CONCLUSIONS

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for extension of time is otherwise absent, applicant hereby requests any extension of time. Please charge any fees or make any credits, to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,



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Robert Plotkin, Esq. Date

Reg. No. 43,861

Robert Plotkin, P.C.
91 Main Street, Suite 204
Concord, MA 01742-2527
Tel: (978) 318-9914
Fax: (978) 318-9060